

## Message Text

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DRAFTED BY OASD/ISA:DANDERSON/JAN  
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 206233

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, MPOL; NO

SUBJECT: PRESTOCKAGE AND PREPOSITIONING IN NORWAY

REF: OSLO 3508

1. THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE HAS PROVIDED INFORMATION ON THE QUESTIONS RAISED IN REFTTEL TO USCINCEUR.
2. THE DOD BELIEVES THE CABLE ADDRESSED AN IMPORTANT ISSUE AND CONTAINED SOUND ANALYSIS AND SUGGESTIONS. SOME OF THE PROPOSALS, HOWEVER, APPEAR PREMATURE. AN UMBRELLA MOU MIGHT BE DIFFICULT TO NEGOTIATE AND OF LIMITED VALUE UNTIL STUDIES AND DECISIONS HAVE BEEN MADE ON REINFORCEMENT AND ON THE CHARACTER OF PRESTOCKAGE. MOREOVER, THE GENERAL LOGISTICS SUPPORT AGREEMENT AND TECHNICAL ANNEXES TO THE  
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LOC AGREEMENT HAVE NOT BEEN CONCLUDED ALTHOUGH THEY MAY BE IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

3. THE DOD STEERING GROUP ON IMPLICATIONS OF NEW MILITARY TECHNOLOGY HAS BEEN ENGAGED IN A BILATERAL STUDY WITH THE NORWEGIAN MOD ON IMPLICATIONS FOR THE DEFENSE OF NORWAY. THIS EFFORT IS FOCUSED ON CURRENT AND FUTURE TECHNOLOGY

AND PROSPECTS FOR STANDARDIZATION AND INTEROPERABILITY. WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE STUDY, HYPOTHETICAL CONFLICT SITUATIONS WITH A SETTING IN NORTHERN NORWAY ARE BEING EXAMINED. THESE HYPOTHETICAL SITUATIONS INVOLVE EXTERNAL REINFORCEMENT OF NORWEGIAN FORCES AND SOME INSIGHTS REGARDING PRE-STOCKAGE OF EQUIPMENT, MATERIAL, AND HOST NATION SUPPORT ARE EMERGING.

4. PRESTOCKAGE REQUIREMENTS ARE BASICALLY OPERATIONAL MATTERS AND ARE NOT A PRIMARY CONCERN OF THE BILATERAL EFFORT. THEREFORE, THE US/NORWEGIAN STUDY WILL NOT PROVIDE EXACT AND DETAILED LINE ITEM DATA, BUT SHOULD BE OF ASSISTANCE IN OUTLINING THE SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM IN GENERAL TERMS. THE RESULTS, IF APPROPRIATE, WILL BE INTRODUCED AT NATO EARLY NEXT YEAR. HOWEVER, AT THIS TIME A CANDIDATE LIST OF ITEMS FOR PREPOSITIONING HAS NOT BEEN PREPARED AND IT IS PROBABLY YET TOO EARLY TO DEVELOP SUCH A LIST. IN THIS CONNECTION THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE HAS DIRECTED THAT THE QUESTION OF PREPOSITIONING AND PRESTOCKAGE OF SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT IN THE NORTHERN EUROPEAN AREA BE ADDRESSED. THIS EFFORT IS BARELY UNDERWAY AND A PRELIMINARY IDENTIFICATION OF POSSIBILITIES AND REQUIREMENTS IS NOT EXPECTED BEFORE NOVEMBER. AT THAT TIME WE WILL BE BETTER PREPARED TO PROCEED WITH MORE DEFINITIVE ASPECTS OF THE ISSUE SUCH AS HOST NATION RECEPTIVITY AND NATO COOPERATION.  
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5. NORWAY, THROUGH THE MECHANISM OF THE SENIOR NATO LOGISTICIAN'S CONFERENCE (SNLC), HAS INDICATED A STRONG INTEREST IN HAVING US SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT PREPOSITIONED IN NORWAY AND HQ USEUCOM HAS RECOMMENDED A SNLC STUDY OF REQUIREMENTS. DISCUSSIONS OF THE MERITS OF SUCH A STUDY ARE SCHEDULED DURING THE MILITARY SESSION OF THE SNLC DURING 10-11 OCTOBER 1978. HQ USEUCOM WILL BE REPRESENTED AT THIS CONFERENCE BY A GENERAL OFFICER.

6. IN SUM, IT APPEARS THAT ALL PARTIES CONCERNED ARE ACTIVELY INTERESTED IN THE CONCEPT OF PRESTOCKAGE IN NORWAY AND VARIOUS INITIATIVES ARE UNDERWAY. AT THIS STAGE WHAT SEEMS TO BE LACKING IS A CLEAR AND AGREED UNDERSTANDING OF THE MAGNITUDE OF THE PROBLEM AND A SPECIFIC DELINEATION OF EXACTLY WHAT THE NORWEGIANS MIGHT BE EXPECTED TO PROVIDE AS A HOST NATION FOR REINFORCING UNITS. THIS IN TURN IMPLIES A COMMITMENT OF MILITARY RESOURCES WHICH WE AND NATO ARE NOT YET PREPARED TO DEFINE.

7. MGEN BOWMAN, CHAIRMAN OF THE DOD STEERING GROUP, IS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED TO BE IN NORWAY DURING THE FIRST

WEEK IN SEPTEMBER AND WOULD BE PLEASED TO DISCUSS THE  
CURRENT STATUS OF THE BILATERAL EFFORT WITH AMBASSADOR  
LERNER AT THAT TIME. CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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